



Friday, April 26, 2019

GWB Market Place Management  
4211 Broadway  
New York NY 10033

Dear Representatives of GWB Market Place Management,

We write to express our full support for the Washington Heights CORNER Project (WHCP) in their search for a physical location to provide their essential services. WHCP represents the cutting-edge of harm reduction and drug user health. Their programming—including a suite of health services, harm reduction services, overdose prevention efforts, and extensive care coordination—has been invaluable to us in Northern Manhattan since their founding in 2007. Since the loss of their physical space in September 2018 due to extenuating circumstances, they have operated their program out of a mobile units located on 181st St. and St. Nicholas Ave, 181st St and Amsterdam Ave, and 179th St and Fort Washington. **WHCP are in urgent need of a new physical space to continue offering the full range of their groundbreaking services to some of the most vulnerable members of our community.**

The space at 4211 Broadway, Unit 1.8 on 179th street is an ideal location for WHCP. The rent is within their means and WHCP has access to the capital for renovations to accommodate their 10 direct service staff and clinical care providers including case managers and healthcare professionals from New York Presbyterian, Montefiore, and Mount Sinai hospital systems. The location is also ideal for the other tenants at the George Washington Bridge Bus Terminal and the surrounding residents and businesses. WHCP's dedication to being a responsible and responsive tenant in this new space was evident at our recent meeting with WHCP Program Directors, where they outlined their comprehensive and thoughtful plan to address, at no cost to the terminal, the longstanding and persisting issues of loitering and petty nuisance by individuals at the terminal who have nowhere else to go. These interventions are outlined in their bid for the space and are indicative of WHCP's integrity as a community partner.

Studies show that when drug users receive the care they need from a brick-and-mortar provider like WHCP, the entire neighborhood benefits: crime rates decrease, public disorder decreases, syringe litter decreases, loitering in public spaces decreases, public drug use decreases, rates of new HIV infection decrease, Hepatitis C rates decrease, and drug user mortality decreases. Perhaps more importantly, successful linkages into care, including

substance use treatment, increase dramatically through fixed-site harm reduction programs like WHCP's. As a potential landlord for WHCP, you will find their staff to be professional, proactive, and deeply caring community members. Their clients are stigmatized for their choices, but they are full and complex humans just like us. We hope you will understand the contributions WHCP offers to our community and strongly consider their bid for your space.

If you need any further information from my office, please do not hesitate to reach out to us

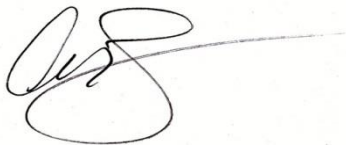
In Unity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gale A. Brewer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gale Brewer  
Manhattan Borough President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert Jackson  
New York State Senator, 31st District

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Al Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Al Taylor  
New York State Assemblymember, 71<sup>st</sup> District

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Levine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark Levine  
New York City Council Member, District 7